

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
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O 250856Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5855
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 09778

E.O.11652 :GDS
TAGS :MARR, MORG, SP, NATO
SUBJ :INVITATION TO SPANISH TO OBSERVE NATO FALL EXERCISE

REF:(A) USCINCEUR 221746Z AUG 78 (NOTAL); (B) STATE
213399 (DTG 222244Z AUG 78) (NOTAL)

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1. SUMMARY :AS IT HAS THE PAST TWO YEARS, THE EMBASSY
STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT SPANISH MILITARY OFFICERS BE
INVITED TO OBSERVE APPROPRIATE PARTS OF THE AUTUMN FORGE
EXERCISE SERIES SCHEDULED FOR THIS FALL. SUCH INVITA-
TIONS WOULD BUILD ON PREVIOUS LIMITED EXPOSURE OF SPANISH
OFFICERS TO NATO EXERCISES, WHICH HAS BEEN WELL RECEIVED,
AND WOULD HELP TO STRENGTHEN SUPPORT WITHIN THE SPANISH

MILITARY FOR EVENTUAL MEMBERSHIP IN NATO. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GENERAL HUYSER HAS RECENTLY DISCUSSED WITH THE CHIEF, JUSMG SPAIN, OPTIONS FOR THIS YEAR AND WE WOULD URGE THAT THE MATTER BE GIVEN EARLY FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY USNATO AS WELL. END SUMMARY

2. OUR RECOLLECTION IS THAT THE EMBASSY'S FIRST PROPOSAL ALONG THESE LINES, MADE IN 1976, WAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED IN WASHINGTON AND BY USNATO AND EUCOM BUT THAT ARRANGEMENTS BROKE DOWN BECAUSE OF LINGERING ALLIED SENSITIVITIES OVER ASSOCIATION WITH SPAIN. IN 1977, HOWEVER, AT LEAST THREE DIFFERENT GROUPS OF SPANISH OFFICERS DID OBSERVE PARTS OF THE REFORGER SERIES. IN SEPTEMBER 1977, A GROUP OF NINE SPANISH OFFICERS HEADED BY THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE ARMY GENERAL STAFF VISITED THE FRG AT THE INVITATION OF THE GERMAN ARMY AND OBSERVED PART OF THE REFORGER EXERCISES AS PART OF THAT VISIT. SPANISH MEMBERS OF THE US-SPANISH COMBINED MILITARY COORDINATION AND PLANNING STAFF (CMCPS) ALSO OBSERVED PARTS OF THE REFORGER SERIES LAST SEPTEMBER. MAJOR GENERAL LLOSA, THEN SPANISH CO-DIRECTOR OF THE CMCPS, WAS INVITED TO AND ATTENDED THE OPENING CEREMONIES FOR REFORGER AT RAMSTEIN AIR BASE WHILE ON A VISIT TO USAFE; LATER THAT MONTH, A SPANISH ARMY COLONEL AND CAPTAIN, ALSO FROM THE CMCPS STAFF, OBSERVED PART OF THE REFORGER SERIES WHILE ON A VISIT TO USAREUR. ON BOTH OCCASIONS THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED

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BY THEIR US COMBINED STAFF COUNTERPARTS.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT SPECIFIC INVITATIONS THIS YEAR BY THE US AND HOPEFULLY OTHER NATO ALLIES AS WELL FOR APPROPRIATE SPANISH OFFICERS TO OBSERVE PARTS OF THE AUTUMN FORGE SERIES WOULD DEVELOP THIS TREND TOWARD A LARGER SPANISH ROLE IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER. TWO POSSIBLE FORMULAS HAVE ALREADY APPEARED. IN REF (A), USCINCEUR PROPOSES TO INVITE FOUR SPANISH GENERAL OFFICERS TO OBSERVE EXERCISES "CERTAIN SHIELD" AND "CARDINAL SWORD." REF (B) CALLS FOR NOTIFICATION TO CSCE SIGNATORY GOVERNMENTS OF NATO EXERCISES "BLAUE DONAU," "CERTAIN SHIELD AND "SAXON DRIVE", AND INDICATES THAT OBSERVERS WILL BE INVITED BY THE FRG, THE NETHERLANDS AND THE FRG, RESPECTIVELY.

4. WE APPLAUD BOTH FORMULAS FOR INVITING THE SPANISH ALTHOUGH NEITHER GOES QUITE AS FAR AS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. WE WELCOME CINCEUR'S PROPOSAL OF A US-ONLY INVITATION TO SPANISH OFFICERS TO OBSERVE "CERTAIN SHIELD" AND "CARDINAL SWORD." AS FOR REF (B), WE WOULD HOPE THE SPANISH WOULD BE INCLUDED IN EACH CASE AND THAT THEY COULD RECEIVE INVITATIONS WHICH GO BEYOND THE CONTEXT OF CSCE.

5. IN THE PAST, WHEN ALLIED VIEWS TOWARD SPAIN WERE LESS
UNIFORMLY POSITIVE, USNATO TOOK THE LEAD IN PREPARING
THIS TERRAIN WITH THE ALLIES. SINCE TIME IS NOW SHORT,
SULTATIONS WITH THE ALLIES ON THE POLITICAL LEVEL, THIS
MISSION WILL PROCEED, TOGETHER WITH EUCOM, TO IDENTIFY FOUR
SPANISH GENERAL OFFICERS TO RECEIVE INVITATIONS TO OBSERVE
"CERTAIN SHIELD" AND "CARDINAL SWORD" AS GUESTS OF
USAREUR. WE WOULD HOPE TO HAVE USNATO'S VIEWS ON THIS
SOONEST. SECOND, WE WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER USNATO
MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO TO ASSURE THAT SPAIN WILL BE INCLUDED
IN ALL CSCE INVITATIONS TO REFORGER EXERCISES AND TO EN-
COURAGE OTHER ALLIED INVITATIONS GOING BEYOND THE CSCE
CONTEXT ALONG THE LINES OF THAT TO BE EXTENDED BY EUCOM.
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